

Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission Meeting Minutes

November 5th, 2019 @ 10 am



1. **Update & Vote on State Markers-** We discussed marker locations that Connor Graham researched. The Committee took a vote on the locations for each county plus Wilmington and we have decided on:
 - ***Georgetown for Sussex County-*** Rally in Georgetown at the **Courthouse** on March 16, 1920 w/ suffragists and anti-suffragists. Newspaper clipping says that both sides were given. Another newspaper clipping I found said that a woman who was at the Georgetown meeting said “that Georgetown meeting Tuesday morning has proved one of the worst boomerangs to the anti-suffrage leaders that could have happened”
 - ***Wilmington Train Station for the City of Wilmington*** - May 2, 1914 a suffrage parade took place in Wilmington beginning at the train station at French and Front Streets and lead north along Market Street to the old NCC Courthouse, the present site of Rodney Square. Delaware suffragists gathered at the Wilmington train station the following week to head to DC for a national parade.
 - ***The Old New Castle County Court House (Currently the Museum) for New Castle County*** - Location of the fourth annual convention of the Delaware Equal Suffrage Association. Leading suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt, who was then president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association and who later founded the League of Women Voters, spoke at the conference.
 - ***The Green for Kent County*** - “Suffrage Field Day” April 14, 1920 - Delaware Equal Suffrage Association organized an event on The Green coincident with the holding of the Republican State Convention. Bands, speakers, and series of public meetings pushed by Mabel Lloyd Ridgely. Every city, town, and village in the state is expected to be represented.
 - ***Small Monument in front of The Old State House-*** 1881, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony spoke before the Delaware legislature in favor of a state constitutional amendment for women's suffrage.
2. **March Sub-Committee Update** – See page 3 for notes from Jack Young about the March!
3. **Communication Sub-Committee Update** –
 - We have completed two interviews with both [Dr. Lanette Edwards](#) and [Dr. Reba Hollingsworth](#) (feel free to click on their names to see the interviews)! We will be hosting a couple of days of video shoots for legislators

- I have attached information about an event coming up on November 14th being hosted by the League of Women Voters of Sussex County. It will be a discussion and lecture looking back on the Women's Suffrage Movement.

4. **Marketing Promotions** - We were able to review the updated website and social media pages. I will be attaching the links to the pages for everyone to save, share, and follow!

- ***Here are the links to our website/social media pages:***
 - Website: <https://archives.delaware.gov/women-vote-100/>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WomenVote100/>
 - Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/womenvote100/?hl=en>
 - YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCmEt_grkJC9E3DgDmTn2QQ

5. **Other ideas/comments –**

- We will be moving the next meeting from December 3rd to December 10th from 10 am to 12 pm in the Tattnell Building (room 112).
- We had a discussion on having a flower of significance to commemorate the celebration.
 - Maine is doing using Daffodils in their plans– Sarah Granda will conduct research on how we can incorporate this into our plans.
- To get the word out there, we will create a press release to be disseminated to local press to bring more traffic to our website, more engagement to our social media, and to promote our event next September.
- Sarah Granda will reach out to local Arts and Cultural institutions to see if they are programming or creating any exhibits they have planned around the Women's Suffrage Movement

Update on March Sub-Committee

Jack Young

1. I am sorry to miss this meeting due to a speech in Mexico at the 3rd Plenary Meeting of the Global Network on Electoral Justice.
2. The Parade Committee met recently and recommends that that we refer to the event as a Celebration in support of the dedication of the Suffrage Monument or a similar term. Presently the Committee reports that—
 - a. The State has approved a permit for activities around Leg. Hall. The City of Dover permit is pending City Police input which the Department will be considered after the first of the year.
 - b. The event will be held on September 26 at 10 am in conjunction with the dedication of the Suffrage Monument on the Leg. Hall grounds at noon.
 - c. We are focusing on an event that is Legislative Hall-centric, meaning that we would focus on a March staging in one of the parking lots adjacent to Leg. Hall, moving from Leg. Hall to the old Leg. Hall on the Green and back to Leg. Hall. Attached are copies of a rough map of the plan.
 - d. Members of the Subcommittee should send to Sarah, no later than November 15th, suggestions for invitees to participate. Sarah has a preliminary list from the Committee of members of the General Assembly, Congress, and Gov. Minner, League of Women Voters, African American sororities, and others.
 - i. The list is attached
 - e. The Parade Committee is developing a timeline of tasks to undertaken, including commitments of antique cars, bands and logistics.
 - f. Several Co-Chairs should be appointed, one of whom has experience with organizing parades and similar events.
3. Members of the Parade Committee raised the question of the date for the event of September 26th, given the other major events on that day. It is my understanding that the September 26th date is fixed but should be confirmed by the Subcommittee.